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Lost & found

Senator, wife want to bring life back into Allegheny Lodge

By THERESE SMITH COX
DAILY MAIL STAFF

MINNEHAHA SPRINGS — A visitor to this rolling Pocahontas County valley might notice up on the hillside a few rundown cabins and a crumbling stone foundation.

But state Sen. Walt Helmick sees beyond the peeling paint and the vacant footprint of a resort lodge that fire destroyed in 1983.

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Senate finance chairman envisions 10 quaint cottages, a handsome country hotel and a commercial spring water bottling plant.

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CRAIG CUNNINGHAM/DAILY MAIL
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Detective taking on a new kind

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By CHRIS
DAILY MAIL

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Found

■ Continued From 1A

trance — an English Tudor timbered-type gate flanked by huge natural stone piers.

But what's inside the entrance will draw visitors, Helmick said.

This week, workmen John and Marshall Smith and Harry Whiting are scraping old paint from the clapboard siding on Piecrust and Suco cottages and cutting some 100-foot-tall trees for lumber for five new cottages.

Already, Helmick has repaired water lines to the hillside springs — which gush 700,000 crisply clear and chilly gallons of water a day — and installed a small bottling plant. He expects to begin bottling soon and have 16.9-ounce and 12-ounce containers of Minnehaha Mist in stores in November.

"The water never sees daylight," Helmick said. "It is pure."

"The bottling plant will be a very small operation to see

what the market will bear. If market determination is made, we're looking at constructing a larger plant. We understand the value of water more than they did in 1912."

Within two years, contractors should finish building the new 12-room hotel, to resemble the original \$15,000 "handsome and commodious clubhouse," as described in a 1911 Pocahontas Times newspaper story quoting game warden J.A. Viquesney, who bought the McElwee farm with his deputy that year.

A 60-seat restaurant will span the fourth floor of the 14-dormer lodge, set with two or three front porches, fireplaces and a brick floor, using some original materials found on the site, Helmick said.

The spectacular view from the original, still-standing, curved stairway focuses through the Knapp's Creek Valley to rows of verdant mountains dozens of miles in the dis-



KEVIN CADE/DAILY MAIL

tance. Guests once walked the breezy verandas in the imposing Southern-plantation style lodge.

"In the winter, on cold, brisk

days, you can look at the mountains and see a lot of Civil War history," Helmick said, noting that the resort lies only 24 miles from the Homestead in Virginia, 29 miles from Snowhoe Mountain and 39 miles from The Greenbrier.

Luminaries such as Nobel Prize winner Pearl Buck and three-time Olympic gold medal skier Jean Claude Killy stayed at the old Allegheny Lodge, as well as visitors from several countries. West Virginia governors William Glasscock and William MacCorkle were original members of the sportsmen's club, according to the Fall 1991 Goldenseal magazine.

Of note were the dozens of elk that once roamed the club's original 5,000 acres, though they were considered extinct in the state as of 1875. Viquesney had hired cowboys in 1912 to round up several Rocky Mountain elk and ship them by railroad car to Minnehaha Springs,

where their descendants lived until 1990.

Efforts to find homes for the last four elk, which trekked to neighbors' farms and ate crops, failed. They had to be put down.

Helmick said he hopes to repopulate his emerging "quality small resort" with elk.

Meanwhile, workers are restoring the cottages for later rental. The Helmicks, both of whom spend much time in Charleston where she works, plan to move from their downtown Marlinton house to a rustic, green-painted cabin that sits at the apex of the open meadow, overlooking the old nine-hole golf course, the rifle range, the wading pool, the cottages and the soon-to-be-built lodge.

"I want to make it right," Helmick said. "We've got a lot of work to do."

Writer Therese Smith Cox can be reached at 348-4874 or by e-mail at therese@dailymail.com.

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■ Continued From 1A

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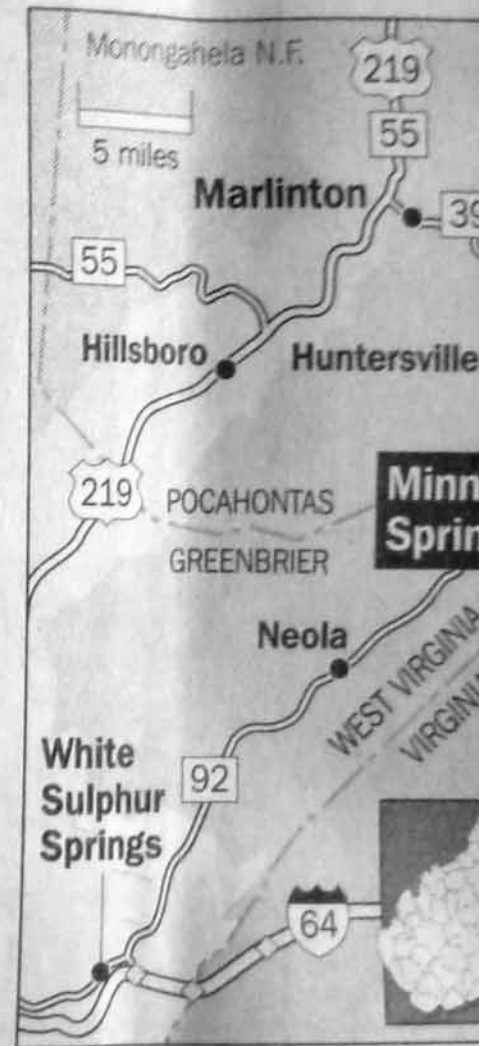
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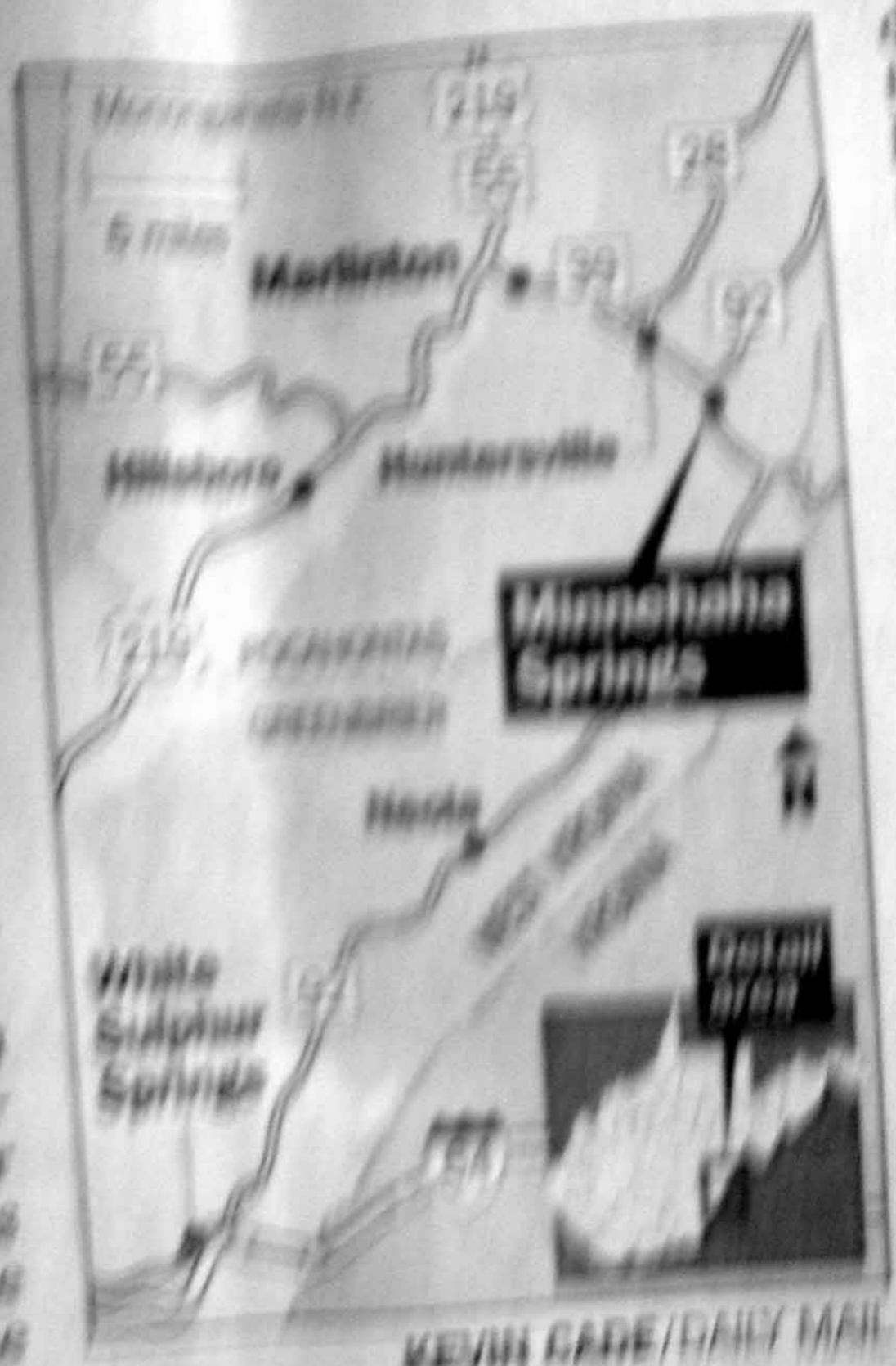
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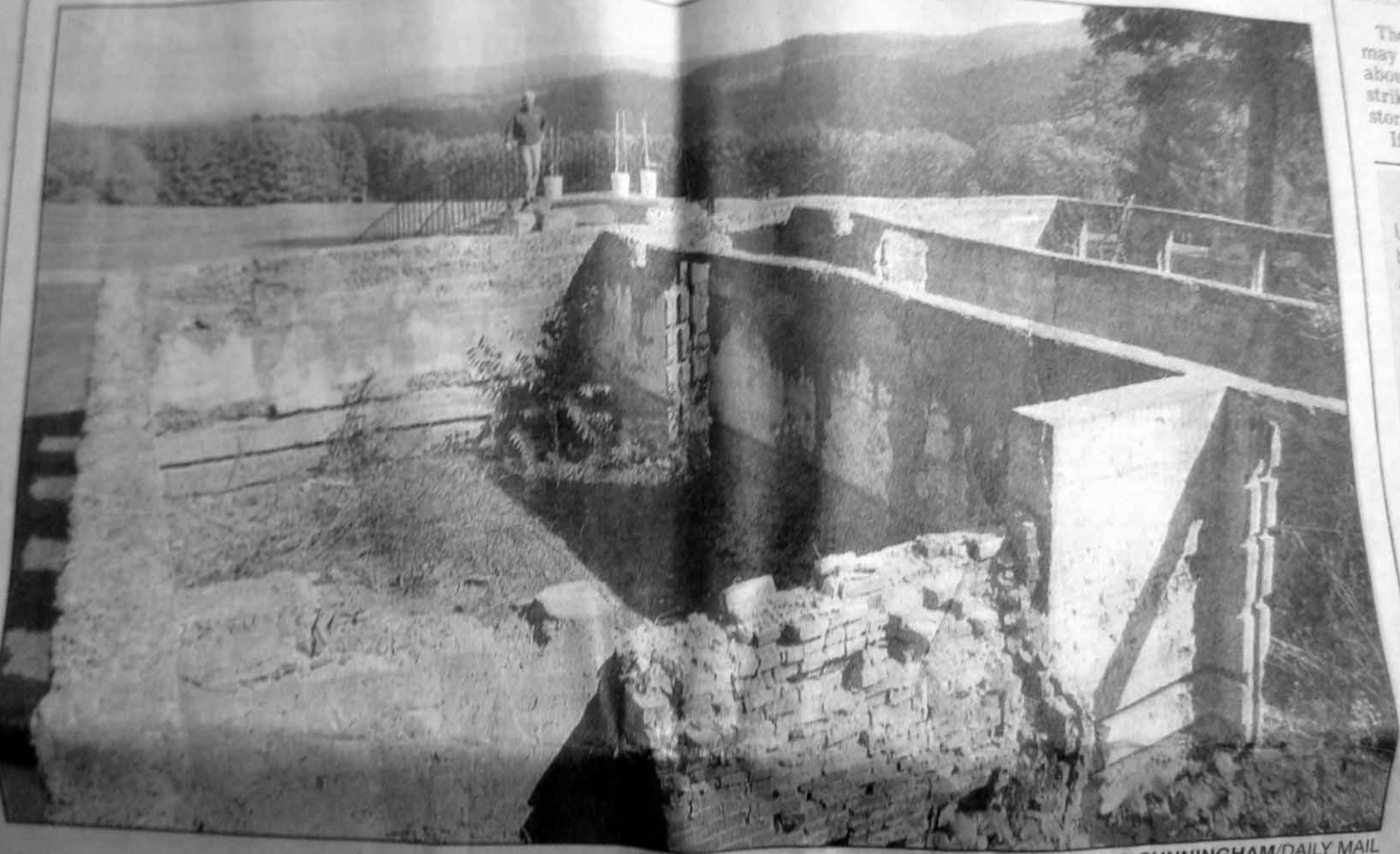
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Detective taking on a new kind of

By KRIS WISE
DAILY MAIL STAFF

Detective George Jarrett has made a name for himself on Charleston's

week when he retires from the department, he'll instead start a new career tracking down people who don't take care of their property.

"I'll still be policing, it's just a different kind of policing," says the 54-

early in his West Side al- ligious landlo- erty code vi- owners to l- laws and h-



Allegheny Lodge

Four-Season Resort on 200 Acres Near "The Greenbrier"
Minnehaha Springs, West Virginia

Alleghany Lodge . . . A Secluded Mountain Paradise Antique-Furnished Resort in the Pocahontas Highlands

The Alleghany Lodge is a four-season mountain retreat which features turn-of-the-century charm and decor. The white-columned main lodge which accommodates 32 guests overlooks Stoney Creek Valley and the Alleghany Mountains. Six fully-equipped cottages are tucked away amidst 100' tall pines on the resort's 200 acres which adjoin the more than 800,000 acre Monongahela National Forest. And only four miles away is the 1-million acre George Washington National Forest.

Sportsmen can experience a myriad of prime **hunting** and **fishing** at both National Forests while enjoying the quaint accommodations and scrumptious country cooking offered at the Alleghany Lodge. Nearby rivers and streams challenge the fisherman with bass and trout. The forests abound with bear, deer, wild turkey, grouse and a variety of small game.

The Lodge's great room features a close-up look at many of these, (they're stuffed, of course!), while relaxing by a roaring fire or socializing in the lounge area. You can even sharpen your marksman skills on the Lodge's Skeet Range.

Golfers can play at a local 9-hole course or enjoy the championship courses of the famous Greenbrier in White Sulphur Springs or the Homestead in Hot Springs, Virginia. Both are within 30 miles of the Lodge.

Skiing enthusiasts have easy access to some of the best skiing in mid-America at Snowshoe Ski Resort

which boasts a 1,500' vertical, miles of interconnecting trails and 7 triple chair lifts.

Other attractions popular with lodge guests are the Cass Scenic Railroad, the Green Bank Observatory, Pearl Buck's home and the quality shops of the **Greenbrier** or the **Gristmill Square** located near the **Homestead**.

Breakfast and dinner are served Daily, Country style, in the Lodge's dining room located on the lower lever of the main Lodge. The lower lever also offers a sports challenge in the Game Room with **billiards** and **ping pong**.

Or you can just relax in a swing or wicker rocking chair on one of the many porches and take in the breathtaking natural beauty of this unspoiled land.

The Alleghany Lodge is truly a mountain paradise to be enjoyed during all seasons. We hope you'll join us soon because you'll want to return again and again.

Call or write for our current rates which include breakfast and dinner. Groups can be accommodated upon request.

Garnie R. Stidham

Garnie R. Stidham
Owner





One of the numerous porches with lovely views of Stoney Creek Valley and the Alleghany Mountains



Edgewood Cabin



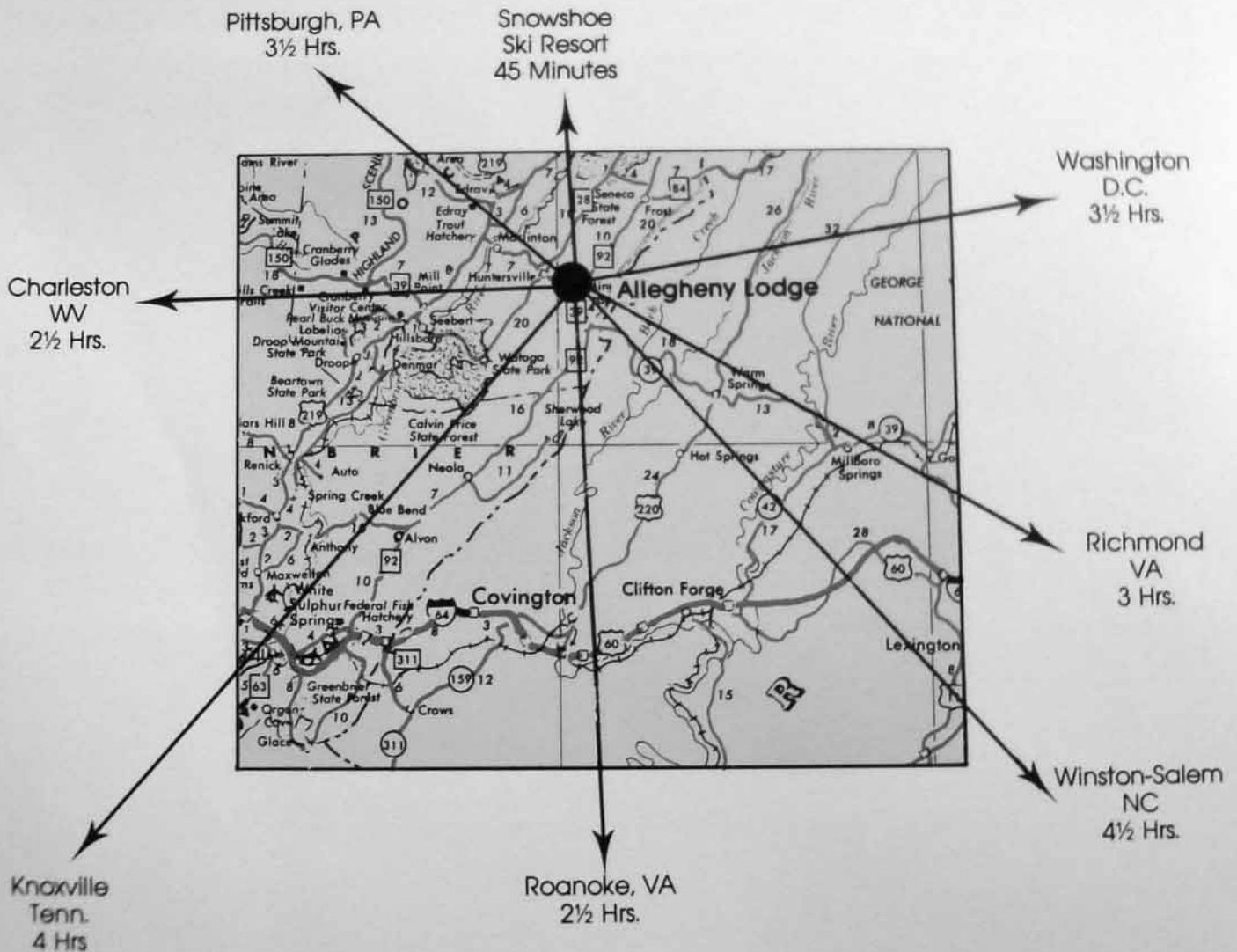
Barbecue and proposed Tennis Courts



Large indoor recreation has professional sized tables and ample equipment



Pine Crest cabin guests enjoy a visit from an elk herd



The Allegheny Lodge is located 9 miles east of Marlinton, West Virginia on Route 39.

Take I-64 or Route 60 to White Sulphur Springs, then go north on 92 to Route 39. At Route 39 go west for four miles to Minnehaha Springs. The entrance to the Allegheny Lodge will be on your left.

For reservations and information contact:

Allegheny Lodge
 Minnehaha Springs, WV 24960
 304-799-4871



Minnehaha Springs, W. Va. 24960

304 - 799 - 4871

Daily Price Per Unit

RATES

PIECRUST COTTAGE \$150.00
2-bedrooms, bath, sitting area — Sleeps 5

GUEST APARTMENT \$225.00
3-bedrooms, kitchen, shower-bath, living room
with sleeper couch — Sleeps 8

SUCO COTTAGE \$175.00
Large bedroom with 2 double beds, living room
with sleeper couch, kitchenette, bath — Sleeps 6

GREEN COTTAGE \$ 75.00
1-bedroom, shower, living room with 2-sleeper
couches — Sleeps 6

PINECREST COTTAGE \$210.00
2-bedrooms, kitchen, living room with sleeper couch,
dining room, large porch and fireplace
bath-shower — Sleeps 6-8

EDGEWOOD COTTAGE \$185.00
2-small bedrooms, 1-large bedroom, kitchenette
living room with sleeper couch, fireplace — Sleeps 6

15-Bedrooms in Main Lodge Building — Sleeping 2 to 4 persons. Some with private bath.
Price ranges from \$25.00 to \$50.00 per person double occupancy. \$12.50 for added cot. 5% W. Va.
sales tax not included.

Table with 3 columns: Discounts, Days, and Percentage. Rows include 3-Days (Less 15%), 4-Days (Less 20%), 5-Days (Less 30%), and 7-Days (Less 35%).

The Above Rates
Do Not Include Meals.

Deposit & Cancellation Procedures (Cottage Rentals)

* 50% of total bill is due within 14 days of booking reservation. Remainder is due upon check-in. Payment accepted
— Cash, Travelers Checks, Personal Check, VISA or Mastercharge.

* A separate \$100.00 security deposit per unit will be collected for ALL cottages upon check in. This will be returned
provided party has checked out no later than 12:00 Noon and no damage or loss has occurred to the cottage.

* Providing Cancellation is made more than 30 days prior to date of arrival, your deposit will be refunded minus a
\$25.00 service charge per cottage. If cancellation is made 30 days or less prior to arrival, the entire deposit will be
forfeited.

FOOD — Breakfast and Dinner will be served family style. Breakfast 6:00 AM - 9:00 AM, Dinner 6:00 PM - 8:00
PM — Breakfast \$4.00, Dinner \$7.00. (Tax not included)

Beverages: No Alcoholic beverages are sold at Allegheny Lodge. However, beer and wine may be purchased at local
stores and there is a W. Va. ABC store 9 miles away at Marlinton, W. Va. Mixes and soft drinks are available at the main
lodge building.

Arrival & Departure: Guest may check in the Lodge building after 1:00 PM for rooms in the Lodge and after 2:00
PM for those staying in the cottages. CHECK OUT TIME WILL BE 12:00 Noon.

PETS: No pets permitted.

LAUNDRY: WASHER & DRYER IN LAUNDRY ROOM — SMALL FEE

CHURCHES: Most denominations are located within 10 miles.